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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE: ACTIONS BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Secretariat in response to the request of the Working Group of the Whole to Evaluate the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Addendum

The following information has been received from the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites in response to the request by the Secretariat for information on actions undertaken to implement the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82).

III. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITES

Concerning the provision of assistance, especially to developing countries, in scientific work relating to satellite communications (para. 77 of the UNISPACE 82 report)

The European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) has an education and training policy, directed in particular towards the continent of Africa. Education and training material describing the main missions and services of the METEOSAT satellite system are in the course of preparation and will be used by the EUMETSAT member States

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and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for numerous support programmes in the region.

Concerning the continuation of free access to data from operational meteorological satellites, especially for developing countries (para. 176 of the UNISPACE 82 report)

EUMETSAT is well aware of the benefit of satellite data to developing countries and will strive to ensure that meteorological services continue to have free access to meteorological imagery and products needed to implement WMO programmes.

Concerning the development of a world-wide operational search and rescue system (paragraph 185 of the UNISPACE 82 report)

EUMETSAT is studying the possibility of installing search and rescue facilities on future geostationary and polar orbiting satellite systems.

Concerning the provision of world-wide remote-sensing data (para. 227 of the UNISPACE 82 report)

The satellites of EUMETSAT will remain a key element of the WMO Global Observing System. These meteorological satellites are planned and developed to ensure both continuous and reliable observation of the Earth and its environment. EUMETSAT satellites already form part of a global observing system with each element established by meteorological satellite operators and with many of the services provided by the network coordinated by the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS), of which EUMETSAT is the secretariat.